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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jean Marc AURIOL and Philippe BORNES Confirmation No.: 5085

Application No.: 10/520,762

Filed: January 10, 2005

For: STORAGE AND DISTRIBUTION DEVICE FOR PARTS ESPECIALLY RIVETS

Attorney Docket No.: 3978.017

Customer Number: 000041288

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop PCT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the following documents for the above-identified application. Copies of the documents set forth below and listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, along with copies of the International Search Report and French Search Report are provided herewith.

1. WO 00 07751 A
2. European Patent No. EP 0 995 537 A
3. European Patent No. EP 0 536 779 A
4. WO 95 34391 A
5. European Patent No. EP 0 511 093 A

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6. European Patent No. EP 0 618 022 A

7. WO 91 18695 A

Document 1

WO 00 07751 A entitled, "Improvements in or Relating to Fastening Machines" published on February 17, 2000.

In the International Search Report, Document 1 was cited as category "Y" relevancy to claims 1-7.

In the French Search Report, Document 1 was cited as category "X" relevancy to claims 1-8.

Document 1 is in the English language.

Document 2

European Patent No. EP 0 995 537 A entitled, "Orientation Maintained Fastener Delivery System and Method" published on April 26, 2000.

In the International Search Report Document 2 was cited as category "Y" relevancy to claims 1-7.

The French Search Report does not cite Document 2.

Document 2 is in the English language.

Document 3

European Patent No. EP 0 536 779 A entitled, "Continuous Parts Feeder" published on April 14, 1993.

In the International Search Report Document 3 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claim 1.

In the French Search Report, Document 3 was cited as category "X" relevancy to claim 1.

Document 3 is in the English language.

Document 4

International Bureau of WIPO Patent No. WO 95 34391 A entitled, "Device for Dispensing Single Components and Device for Storing Said Components" published on December 21, 1995.

In the International Search Report, Document 4 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claims 1 and 2.

In the French Search Report, Document 4 was cited as categories "D" and "Y" relevancy to claims 1-3.

Applicants are not aware of any English language document equivalent to or in the Patent Family of Document 4, other than an English language abstract which is cited below.

Device for dispensing single components, in particular, rivets of different shapes and sizes. The rivets are conveyed to a riveting station one by one in a given direction by a deformable elastic means (11) guiding them along the whole path. Said rivets (14) are moved along within the elastic means (11) by a pressure source (P). The present invention also concerns a device for storing said components and comprising holding means (24) adapted to feed the pieces one by one to the elastic means (11). The invention provides a device for uniformly and steadily feeding riveting machines used in the aircraft industry.

Document 5

European Patent No. EP 0 511 093 A entitled, "Procede et dispositif de conditionnement et de distribution de petites pieces cylindriques" published on October 28, 1992.

In the International Search Report Document 5 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claims 1 and 2.

In the French Search Report, Document 5 was cited as category "Y" relevancy to claims 1-3.

Applicants are not aware of any English language document equivalent to or in the Patent Family of Document 5.

Document 6

European Patent No. EP 0 618 022 A entitled, "Automatic System for Selecting and Feeding Preoriented Rivets to Riveting Machines" published on October 5, 1994.

In the International Search Report Document 6 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claims 1-7.

In the French Search Report, Document 6 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claims 1-10.

Document 6 is in the English language.

Document 7

International Bureau of WIPO Patent No. WO 91 18695 A entitled, "Device for the Selection and Distribution of Parts Such as Rivets" published on December 21, 1991.

In the International Search Report Document 7 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claim 1.

In the French Search Report, Document 7 was cited as category "A" relevancy to claim 1.

Applicants are not aware of any English language document equivalent to or in the Patent Family of Document 7, other than an English language abstract which is cited below.

A device for the selection and distribution of various types of parts, with a view to performing a unitary selection of a type of part according to each distribution cycle. The device comprises at least two tubes for holding the parts (3, 4), and a sequential transfer head (7) to which are connected feed ducts. Said transfer head comprises movable drawers (8, 9), provided with recesses for receiving, one by one, the parts emerging from the feed ducts, common means for

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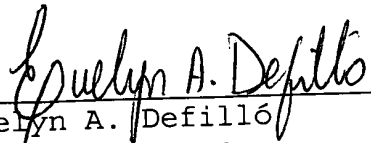
discharging the parts (C) and means for engaging each drawer, with a view to aligning its recess with the outlet means according to the selected part. Application: in particular for feeding an automatic riveting machine with rivets of various lengths.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months from the application's filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, therefore, no Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedated or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application, and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: July 22, 2005

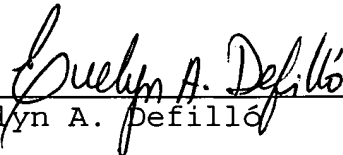
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Form PTO-1449, including seven (7) documents, for U.S. Application No. 10/520,762 filed January 10, 2005, were deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid to: Mail Stop PCT, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **July 22, 2005**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.



Evelyn A. DeFillio

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

